

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 were acted upon in the aforementioned Office Action. All claims stand subject to restriction. No claims have been cancelled and no new claims have been added, leaving claims 1-34 for consideration.

As noted hereinbelow, an election has been effected, with traverse as to a couple of issues.

In response to the requirement for election, Applicant elects to pursue the drive wheel drive mechanism, the drive wheel being shown in at least FIG. 27, the blade shown in at least FIG. 1, and the blade tip shown in FIG. 23C.

The claims which read on FIGS. 1 and 27 appear to be claims 1, 3-9, 29 and 33.

The requirement for election between the embodiments shown in FIGS. 23A and 23B is respectfully traversed. The only difference between these two embodiments appears to be the shape of one portion of an opening 106. It would appear that the two embodiments could be prosecuted in one application inasmuch as the difference is miniscule and examining the two embodiments independently of each other, would appear to be rather difficult to do. Examination of both embodiments would appear not to place undue burden on the Office or the examination process. Further,

there do not appear to be any claims currently in the case reading on either specific embodiment. Accordingly, whereas it is the claims that are subject to election, and not the drawings, the reason for this required election is not readily understood. However, even if claims pertinent to this issue arise later in the case, it appears that both embodiments could easily be handled without extra burden on the Office.

Applicants further respectfully traverse the requirement for election between embodiments shown in FIGS. 26 and 27. The only difference between the two embodiments appears to be the shape of a groove in a drive wheel. Again, it appears that these two embodiments would normally be handled in a single search without undue burden on the Office. A search of a generally V-shaped groove would seem to invariably involve art with generally arc-shaped grooves. In fact, a V-shape could be considered about the same as a "generally arc shape." Conversely, an arc-shape could be considered about the same as a "generally V-shape." At present, claims 1, 5-9, 24 and 33 read on both embodiments. Claims 3 and 4 are limited to a generally arc-shaped groove and claim 2 is directed to a generally V-shaped groove. If Examiner views this traverse favorably, only claim 2 would be added to the active claims.

The above election operates to withdraw at least claims 10-28, 30-32 and 34 from consideration.

Claims 1, 3-9, 29 and 33, remain for consideration, and it appears that claim 2 should remain for consideration.

All claims, both elected and non-elected have been amended to improve form for examination in this and/or further applications.

A review of the case revealed reference character errors in FIGS. 24 and 34 of the drawings. Red ink amendments are submitted herewith for Examiner's approval.

In the event that any fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

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November 17, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

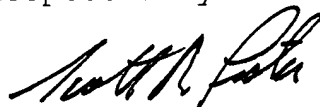


(SIGNATURE)

November 17, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,



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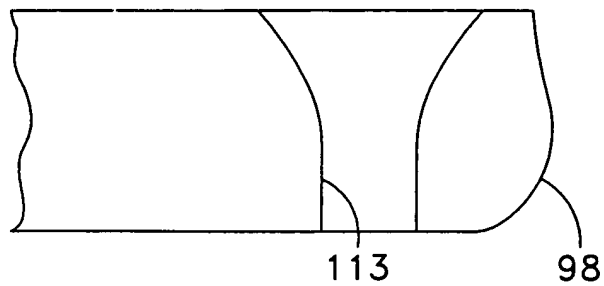


FIG. 23C

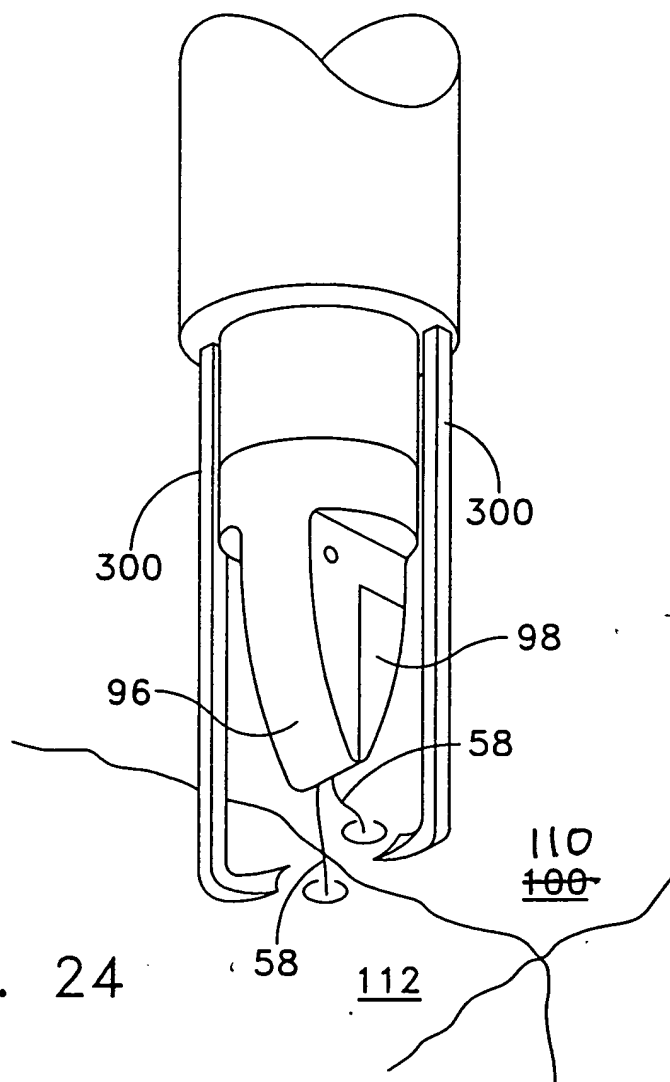


FIG. 24

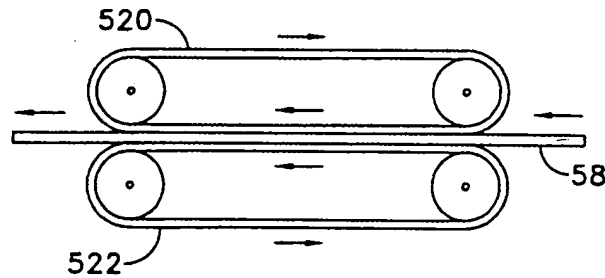


FIG. 29

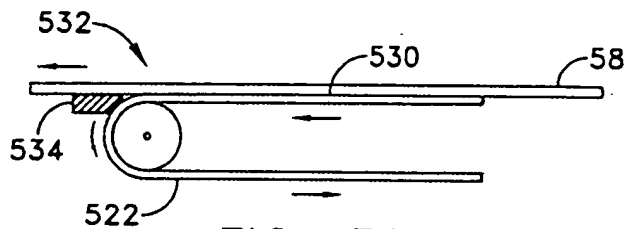


FIG. 30

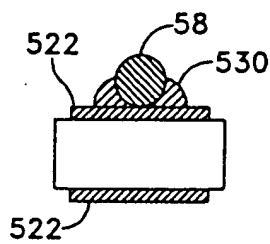


FIG. 31

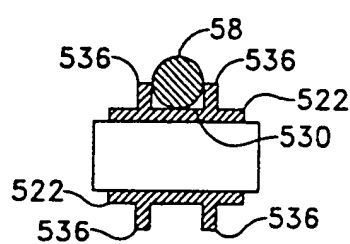


FIG. 32

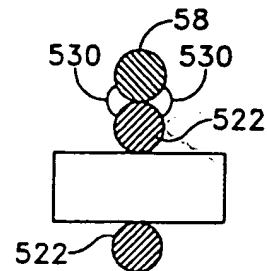


FIG. 31a

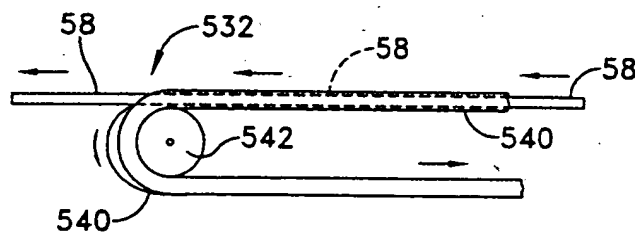


FIG. 33

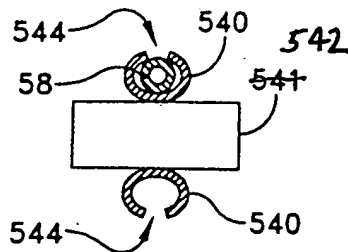


FIG. 34